

REMARKS

The drawings stand objected to for having extraneous words and numbers in the margins thereof. Replacement sheets are submitted herewith, believed to correct the deficiencies noted by Examiner.

Claim 1 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as unpatentable over U.S. Patent 5,224,906 - Sturm, in view of U.S. Patent 4,234,831 – Kemmer et al.

Claim 1 has been amended to limit the invention claimed to having a first pressure chamber (30) of a piston/cylinder unit (7) being in operating fluid communication with a second pressure chamber (6) by way of an axial bore (8) provided in a clutch shaft (12).

The operating fluid (11) is conducted by the piston/cylinder unit (7) through the axial bore (8) provided in the clutch shaft (12) into the pressure chamber (6). The discharge opening of the connecting line (8) is always in direct communication with the pressure chamber (6), while the other end of the axial bore (8) is disposed at the outlet of the piston/cylinder unit (7).

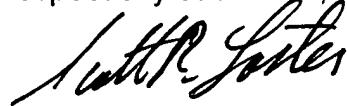
Neither Sturm nor Kemmer appears to show or suggest the specific arrangement set forth in claim 1. It appears, therefore, that amended claim 1 stands clear of the teachings of Sturm and Kemmer and should be deemed allowable thereover.

Claims 2-12 depend directly or ultimately from claim 1 and would appear to be allowable, at least through dependency.

Accordingly, allowance of claims 1-12 is most respectfully requested.

If any fees are required in connection with this matter, please charge the same to Deposit Account No. 16-0221.

Respectfully submitted,



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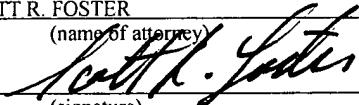
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SCOTT R. FOSTER

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